



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

~~In re~~ ~~Applicant:~~

M. Cameron Watson et al.

Serial No.: 09/728,852

**Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR PARTITIONING DATA
FOR STORAGE IN A DATABASE**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Examiner: H. Mahmudi

Group Art Unit No: 2175

Atty Dkt. No. NCR.0021US
(9261)

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED OCTOBER 24, 2002

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application as set forth below:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claim 10, without prejudice.

Amend the following claims:

Sub Cl 1

11. (Amended) A method, comprising:

2 receiving data to be stored in a database system having plural data servers;
3 receiving information associated with at least one characteristic of the
4 data;
5 partitioning the data for storage in the database system based on the
6 characteristic associated with the data; and
7 storing the partitioned data in storage units associated with the plural data
8 servers; and
9 in response to a database query, selecting less than all the plural data
10 servers based on the partitioning of the data to reduce a number of data servers involved
11 in processing the database query.

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Date of Deposit: January 15, 2003
I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.
Dawn L. Thomas
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